

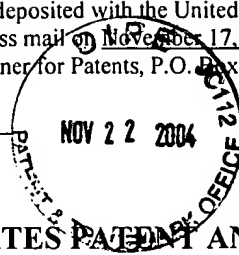
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail on November 17, 2004 in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Ref. No.: 12439-0050

2833
[Handwritten signature]

Libby Hill
Libby Hill



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/810,871 Confirmation No. 7472
Applicant : Eldridge et al.
Filed : March 16, 2001
TC/A.U. : 2833
Examiner : A. Gillman

Docket No. : P70-US

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Listed on an attached Form PTO/SB/08A is information known to applicant(s).

Applicants ask that the attached Form PTO/SB/08A be initialed and returned in accordance with MPEP §609. This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56.

☐ This statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (b) because (check all that apply):

- ☐ It is being filed within 3 months of the application filing date (other than the filing date of a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d)); or
- ☐ It is being filed within 3 months of entry of a national stage; or
- ☐ It is being filed before the mail date of the first Office Action on the merits; or
- ☐ It is being filed before the mail date of the first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114.

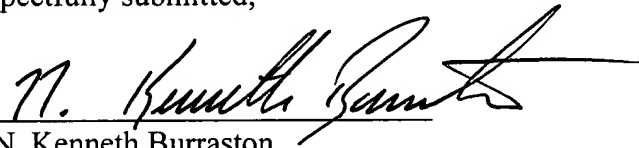
- ☒ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c). If this statement is being filed three months after the filing date of a national application or entry of the national stage in an international application and the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits but before the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action, a notice of allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, then:
- ☐ a statement as specified in §1.97(e) is provided below; **or**
- ☒ a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.
- ☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d). If this statement is being filed after the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action under §1.113, a notice of allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, but before payment of the issue fee, then:
- a statement as specified in §1.97(e) is provided below; **and**
- a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.

Fee:

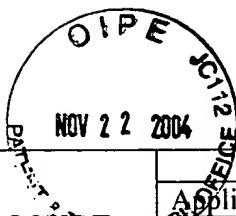
- ☐ No fee is due.
- ☐ A check that includes \$_____ for the above-identified fee(s) is enclosed.
- ☒ This statement is filed as one part of a multi-part submission. The fee for the complete submission was included in a submission filed electronically on November 17, 2004. Applicants request the foregoing fee be accepted for this statement. (See OG Notice dated 17 September 2002.)

Respectfully submitted,

Date: November 17, 2004

By 
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Modified Form PTO/SB/08A

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		<i>Complete If Known</i>	
		Application Number	09/810,871
		Filing Date	March 16, 2001
		First Named Inventor	Eldridge et al.
		Group Art Unit	2833
Examiner Name	Alexander Gilman		
Sheet 1 of 1	Attorney Docket No.	P70-US	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publ. Date	T ⁶	Copy Enclosed
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵				
	1.	EP	463684		Klooster	1/2/1992		Yes
	2.	JP	3-065659		Bando	3/20/1991	x	Yes
	3.	JP	4-207047		Takao	7/29/1992	x	Yes
	4.	JP	5-029406		Nakao	2/5/1993	x	Yes
	5.	JP	8-015318		Suzuki et al.	1/19/1996	x	Yes

OTHER PRIOR ART – NONPATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²	Copy Enclosed
	6.	"Portable, Small Contact Area Surface Resistance Probe Assembly," IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin, vol. 37, no. 02B (Feb. 1994)		Yes

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

** Reference cited in parent application US Serial No. ___. 37 CFR § 1.98(d)

*** Pre-OG Notice By Deputy Commissioner Stephen G. Kunin dated July 11, 2003 waiving the requirement to file copies of US patent publications in applications filed after June 30, 2003.

& Notice dated October 19, 2004 by Deputy Commissioner for Patent Examination Policy waiving requirement to file copies of pending US patent applications if the applications are stored in the USPTO's IFW system.

Commonly owned US patent or application whose subject matter may be related to the subject matter of the instance patent application.